

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 8 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 8a-8d illustrate the hydrogel pad 9 having the porous scrim and hydrogel strips. ~~As shown in Figure 8a, the~~ The hydrogel pad is comprised of the porous scrim 44 (not shown) having the a top surface 42 (not shown) and the a bottom surface 43 (not shown). Hydrogel strips 22 are adhered to either the top or bottom surface of the scrim, with the hydrogel strips arranged parallel to each other. The strips are spaced apart such that the distance between the edges of any two strips is sufficient to ensure that the strips do not contact each other to short the electrodes. Also, the width of each strip is smaller than the inter-electrode gap. The hydrogel strips permeate into the pores of the scrim such that the hydrogel is present on both surfaces of the scrim.